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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/752,925	01/07/2004	William Reginald Pollard	99-0601	5784

40158 7590 08/05/2005

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EXAMINER

PREVIL, DANIEL

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/752,925	<b>Applicant(s)</b> POLLARD, WILLIAM REGINALD	
	<b>Examiner</b> Daniel Previl	<b>Art Unit</b> 2636	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/7/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peters (US 3,730,110).

Regarding claim 1, Peters discloses a cash register alarm system (abstract) comprising: a cash drawer having a back wall and a bottom wall (fig. 1); a tray having a bottom wall and a back wall and being removeably disposed upon bottom wall of cash drawer (fig. 1-fig. 2; col. 2, lines 8-38) tray further having a plurality of partitions spaced apart and forming compartments in tray (fig. 1-fig. 2; col. 2, lines 8-38); a plurality of sensors (fingers 20-20d) (fig. 2) disposed in compartments and in bottom wall of tray for detecting whether compartments have any paper money contained therein (col. 2, lines 8-25); a plurality of electrical current contact members (power source, switch) (fig. 8).

Although, Peters discloses all the limitations above but fails to specify that plurality of electrical members disposed upon back wall of tray and upon back wall of cash drawer. Since, Peters discloses a circuit arrangement having a current source 92 and switches 94, 96 place on the cash register (fig. 8, col. 3, lines 57-63). It would have been obvious to any skill artisan at the time the

invention was made to place the circuit arrangement which is the electrical members in the back wall of the tray and back wall of cash drawer in order to conceal the electrical members from malicious people thereby preventing unauthorized removal of the contents of the drawer as taught by Peters (col. 3, line 67, col. 4, line 1).

Regarding claim 2, Peters discloses electrical current contact members disposed upon tray are connected to sensors with wires (fig. 3-fig. 8; col. 3, lines 18-32).

Regarding claim 3, Peters discloses electrical current contact members disposed upon cash drawer are connected to the alarm system (spray mechanism) with wires (fig. 3-fig. 8, col. 3, lines 18-32).

Regarding claim 4, Peters discloses electrical current contact members of tray is in contactable relationship with a respective one of electrical contact members of cash drawer (fig. 3-fig. 8, col. 3, lines 55-66).

Regarding claim 5, Peters discloses sensors are connected to one another in series such that more than one of sensors would need to be actuated before electrical impulse would be transmitted to the alarm system (fig. 2; col. 3, lines 24-32).

3. Claims 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peters in view of Smith (US 4,242,670).

Regarding claims 6-7, Peters discloses all the limitations in claim 1 but fails to explicitly disclose sensors are essentially light sensitive detectors which are actuated when they are exposed to light.

However, Smith discloses a plurality of photocells 22 which are triggered when exposed to ambient light (col. 48-56; col. 6, lines 27-32).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Smith's photocell in Peters. Doing so would modify Peter's system with Smith's photocell in order to prevent accurately the unauthorized opening of the cash drawer thereby ensuring the safety of the system against theft as taught by Smith (abstract).

Regarding claims 8-9, Peters and Smith disclose all the limitations in claim 6 but fail to explicitly disclose electrical current contact members of tray are disposed on an exterior of back wall thereof. Since Peters discloses that the circuit arrangement with current source 92 and switches 94, 96 are located at an inconspicuous place on the cash drawer (col. 3, lines 55-63). So, it would have been obvious to any skill artisan at the time the invention was made to place the circuit arrangement on an exterior of back wall in order to conceal the electrical members from malicious people thereby preventing unauthorized removal of the contents of the drawer as taught by Peters (col. 3, line 67, col. 4, line 1).

4. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peters and Smith.

Regarding claim 10, Peters discloses a cash register alarm system (abstract) comprising: a cash drawer having a back wall and a bottom wall (fig. 1); a tray having a bottom wall and a back wall and being removeably disposed upon bottom wall of cash drawer (fig. 1-fig. 2; col. 2, lines 8-38) tray further having a plurality of partitions spaced apart and forming compartments in tray (fig. 1-fig. 2; col. 2, lines 8-38); a plurality of sensors (fingers 20-20d) (fig. 2) disposed in compartments and in bottom wall of tray for detecting whether compartments have any paper money contained therein (col. 2, lines 8-25); a plurality of electrical current contact members (power source, switch) (fig. 8); electrical current contact members disposed upon tray are connected to sensors with wires (fig. 3-fig. 8; col. 3, lines 18-32); electrical current contact members disposed upon cash drawer are connected to the alarm system (spray mechanism) with wires (fig. 3-fig. 8, col. 3, lines 18-32); electrical current contact members of tray is in contactable relationship with a respective one of electrical contact members of cash drawer (fig. 3-fig. 8, col. 3, lines 55-66); sensors are connected to one another in series such that more than one of sensors would need to be actuated before electrical impulse would be transmitted to the alarm system (fig. 2; col. 3, lines 24-32); each of electrical current contact members of cash drawer being aligned and in contactable relationship with a respective one of electrical current contact members of tray so that the alarm system is connected to sensors (fig. 1-fig.8; col. 3, lines 10-67).

Peters discloses all the limitations above but fails to explicitly disclose sensors are essentially light sensitive detectors which are actuated when they are exposed to light, light-sensitive detectors being interconnected with wires, electrical current contact members of tray being disposed on an exterior of back wall, electrical current contact members being disposed on an interior of back wall.

However, Smith discloses a plurality of photocells 22 which are triggered when exposed to ambient light (col. 48-56; col. 6, lines 27-32).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Smith's photocell in Peters. Doing so would modify Peter's system with Smith's photocell in order to prevent accurately the unauthorized opening of the cash drawer thereby ensuring the safety of the system against theft as taught by Smith (abstract).

Moreover, Peters and Smith disclose all the limitations above but fails to specify that plurality of electrical members disposed on an exterior and interior back wall of tray and upon back wall of cash drawer. Since, Peters discloses a circuit arrangement having a current source 92 and switches 94, 96 place on the cash register (fig. 8, col. 3, lines 57-63). It would have been obvious to any skill artisan at the time the invention was made to place the circuit arrangement which is the electrical members on exterior and interior back wall of the tray and back wall of cash drawer in order to conceal the electrical members from malicious people thereby preventing unauthorized removal of the contents of the drawer.

***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Dragan (US 5,281,952) discloses light-responsive enclosure alarm.

Gels et al. (US 5,512,877) discloses a currency removal sensor system.

Tucker (4,070,564) discloses anti-theft cash register.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel Previl whose telephone number is (571) 272-2971. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Hofsass can be reached on (571) 272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571 273 8300.



Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Daniel Previl  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2636



**BRENT A. SWARTHOUT**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

DP  
August 2, 2005.